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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,390	02/11/2004	Arlie R. Conner	59516US002	3917
32692	7590	10/05/2005	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY PO BOX 33427 ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			TRUONG, BAO Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/776,390	Applicant(s) CONNER, ARLIE R.	
	Examiner Bao Q. Truong	Art Unit 2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 11-15 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 5-10, 16 and 18-27 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/13/04 & 5/31/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 11, 13, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Walter D'arcy Ryan [US 1,428,662].

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Walter discloses an illumination system having a light module [11, 12] having a first meniscus lens [15, 18] and a second meniscus lens [16, 19] (figures 1-2).

Regarding claims 13 and 14, Walter discloses the plurality of the pairs of meniscus lenses [15, 16, 18, 19] being configured as a double-layered shaped closely packed array (figure 2).

Regarding claim 15, Walter discloses the plurality of the light source modules [11, 12] being disposed within a non-radially symmetrical aperture [opening of housing 10] (figures 1-2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2875

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, 4, 12 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walter D'arcy Ryan in view of Wagner et al. [US 6,788,471].

Regarding claims 2, 3 and 12, Walter discloses the two lenses [15, 16] but does not disclose the two lenses being in contact and held together by an optically clear material.

Wagner et al. teaches the two lenses [125, 126] being in contact and held together by an optically clear material (figure 2).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the two lenses of Walter by placing and holding them in contact and together as taught by Wagner et al. for purpose of providing of an advantageous way of preventing light lost between two lenses.

Regarding claims 4 and 17, Wagner et al. discloses a substantially optically clear dome [128] (figure 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5 – 10, 16 and 18-27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 5 and 18, the light source module comprises a pyramid collector being disposed over a light-emitting surface of the light source module.

Claims 6, 9 and 10 are dependent on claim 5.

Claims 7 and 22, the light module comprises a plurality of emitting surface being disposed next to each other.

Claim 8 is dependent on claim 7.

Claim 16, the illumination system further comprises an image forming device disposed for being illuminated at an angle and having a plurality of mirrors rotatable about a pivot axis.

Claims 19-21 are dependent on claim 18.

Claims 23-27 are dependent on claim 22.

The limitations discussed above are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

Conclusion

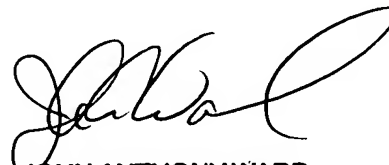
6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. W. D'A Ryan [US 1,451,893], R.C. Bastien [US 2,587,956], Nakai [US 6,061,183], Booth [US 6,254,237] and Kedar et al. [US 2002/0003669] discloses an illuminating system having a light source and a series of lenses.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bao Q. Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2383. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 AM - 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra L. O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Bao Q. Truong
Examiner
Art Unit 2875



JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER